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grey market



vehicles

Guidelines for vehicles not in compliance with federal emission and safety standards

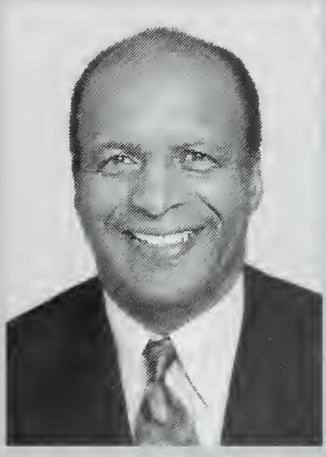
ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS

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JESSE WHITE
SECRETARY OF STATE



Dear Friends:

My office provides this brochure to help you understand the requirements for obtaining titles and registrations for "grey market" vehicles — vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with United States Emission and Safety Standards. These vehicles must be modified to meet those standards and additional documentation from the federal government may be required.

If after reviewing the requirements for Grey Market vehicles you have further questions, please contact the phone numbers listed in this brochure. For title and registration information, please contact my Vehicle Services Department at (217) 782-9796.

Sincerely,

Jesse White

Jesse White
Secretary of State

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"Grey Market" Vehicles:

Grey market vehicles are those vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with U.S. emission and safety standards.

Federal law prohibits a grey market vehicle from being operated on public highways or sold until the vehicle is in compliance with federal regulations. Once in compliance, the vehicle is no longer considered a grey market vehicle.

Obtaining a Title:

An Illinois resident who is the **initial buyer** of a grey market vehicle must provide the required federal documents before obtaining an Illinois Certificate of Title. This requirement applies to licensed vehicle dealers as well as individual buyers.

Subsequent buyers are not required to furnish the same federal documents. The assigned Certificate of Title will be accepted without further proof of compliance.

Required Forms:

The following must be submitted to the Secretary of State to obtain a title for a grey market vehicle:

1. **Illinois Title and Registration Application** (form VSD-190) or **Illinois Title Application** (form VSD-330), if the vehicle will not be operated, and the required title/registration fees

2. **Motor Vehicle Tax Forms** and required fees

3. **Ownership Documents** — Foreign documents of ownership must be the originals, not copies, and must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

 A **bill of sale** is required if the seller is not a U.S. citizen and the sale occurred in a foreign country. The bill of sale should indicate the year, model, make, vehicle identification number and purchase price. It must be in English or accompanied by an English translation.

 If the ownership documents indicate a specific model year for the grey market vehicle, that

year will be used on the title. Otherwise, the model year used on the title for any grey market vehicle manufactured between Sept. 1 and Dec. 31 will be based on the following year.

4. **Federal Documents**

U.S. Customs form 7501, "Entry Summary" — Provided to the importer at the port of entry when the vehicle is brought into the U.S. The form must be signed by the importer and provided to the applicant. For import information, contact: **U.S. Customs, P.O. Box 7407, Washington, D.C., 20044, (202) 354-1000.**

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) form HS-7, "Importation of Motor Vehicle and Motor Vehicle Safety Standards" — Required for vehicles not originally manufactured in compliance with federal emission and safety standards and that are acknowledged by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that the vehicle now conforms to safety standards. For more information contact: **U.S. DOT, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh St. S.W., Washington, D.C., 20590, (800) 424-9393 or (202) 366-0123 or www.nhtfa.dot.gov.**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency form 3520-1, "Importation of Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Engines Subject to Federal Air Pollution Control Regulations: — An acknowledgment from the Environmental Protection Agency that the vehicle now conforms to emission standards. For more information, contact: **U.S. EPA, Manufacturers Operations Division, Investigation/Imports Section, 401 Main St. S.W., Washington, D.C., 20460, (202) 260-4111.**

U.S. DOT and EPA forms are not required if:
The importer or importer's agent submits documentation from these agencies that the vehicle is in compliance with or is exempt from U.S. emission and safety standards (*both documents must indicate compliance or exemption to receive a title)*, or a manufacturer's Certificate of Origin has been issued, showing the vehicle is in compliance with EPA and DOT standards or if the vehicle is 25 years old or older.

Title/Registration Fees:

Illinois Certificate of Title $65
Standard Passenger Vehicle Registration $78

Other registration fees vary according to gross weight, special use of vehicle, design of vehicle, business concern, etc.

Make fees payable to the Secretary of State. DO NOT SEND CASH.

Motor Vehicle Tax:

Any motor vehicle sales tax due must be submitted with the proper tax form. Form RUT-25 must be submitted if the vehicle is purchased from a foreign dealer. Form RUT-50 must be completed if purchased from an individual. Taxes must be made payable to the Illinois Department of Revenue, but submitted with all other documents and fees to the Secretary of State.

Motor vehicle tax questions should be directed to the Department of Revenue at (800) 732-8866 (toll free in Illinois), (217) 782-3336 or (312) 814-3239.

Insurance Claims:

If a vehicle is destroyed or stolen before it becomes in compliance with U.S. DOT and EPA emission and safety standards, the Secretary of State's office will consider the vehicle as salvage and issue a Salvage Certificate **in the name of the insurance company** that paid the total loss claim.

An affidavit verifying that a total loss insurance claim has been filed against the insurance company must be submitted by the owner. The affidavit must identify the vehicle year, model, make and identification number as well as the name and address of the insurance company. The ownership documents and bill of sale, if applicable, must also be submitted.

If a vehicle is recovered without structural damage caused by collision, fire, flood, theft, rust or corrosion, the insurance company making payment on a total loss claim, or persons licensed as a used vehicle dealer, may exchange the Sal-

vage Certificate for a Certificate of Title upon compliance with U.S. EPA and DOT emission and safety standards.

The insurance company or licensed used vehicle dealer must submit the required federal forms to the Secretary of State.

Where To Apply:

In person:
Secretary of State
Customer Service Center
Howlett Building, 1st Floor
501 S. Second St.
Springfield, Illinois 62756

By mail:
Secretary of State
Vehicle Titles Division
Mail-In Title Audit Section
631 Howlett Building
501 S. Second St.
Springfield, Illinois 62756

For more information about grey market vehicles, call (217) 782-6306.

Mandatory Insurance:

All motor vehicles registered and operated in the state of Illinois must have liability insurance — insurance that covers property damage and/or injuries you may cause others in an accident.

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